# Advanced Technologies For Stripper Gas Well Enhancement

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#### **Presentation Outline**

- Project Objectives
- Project Background
- Database Construction
- Stripper Well Remediation Methodology (SWARM) Software



#### Presentation Outline (continued)

- Additional Objectives
- Software Demonstration
- Example of Candidates Identified
- Conclusions
- Recommendations



#### **Project Objectives**

- Create a methodology able to identify underperforming natural gas stripper-wells
  - Easily, effectively, and inexpensively
- Utilize this methodology to recognize remediation candidates in an operating, stripper-gas, field
  - +/- 700 wells operated by Great Lakes Energy Company, and Belden & Blake Corporation have been evaluated
  - Field located in northwestern Pennsylvania



#### Project Background





## Operators Frequently Face a Dilemma in Maximizing Production From Low-productivity Wells

- Hundreds of stripper wells covering thousands of acres
- Difficult for an operator to identify marginal wells easily and efficiently



## In Most Fields There Are Wells That Do Not Perform As Expected

- May be due to:
  - Reservoir characteristics
  - Inadequate completions
  - Operational constraints
  - Mechanical problems



## In Most Fields There Are Wells That Do Not Perform As Expected (Continued)

- Negative influence upon:
  - Overall field production
  - Economics
- Magnitude of reviewing vast amounts of data
  - Burden upon available work force
  - Strains corporate financial resources



### First Step Is to Identify the Underperformers

- We recognized that operators can use an easier and faster method to identify suspect wells.
   Need to be able to:
  - Screen stripper wells within their field
  - Spot candidate wells that may need remediation



#### Assumptions

- General localized production trends exist within a field.
- Any abrupt change exhibited by an individual well, relative to an established trend in its vicinity, identifies that well as a potential remediation/restimulation candidate



#### **Database Construction**

- Production history, location, and well data was provided to us by Great Lakes Energy Company and Belden & Blake
- This information was incorporated into various Microsoft Access databases and Excel files designed to facilitate our analyses

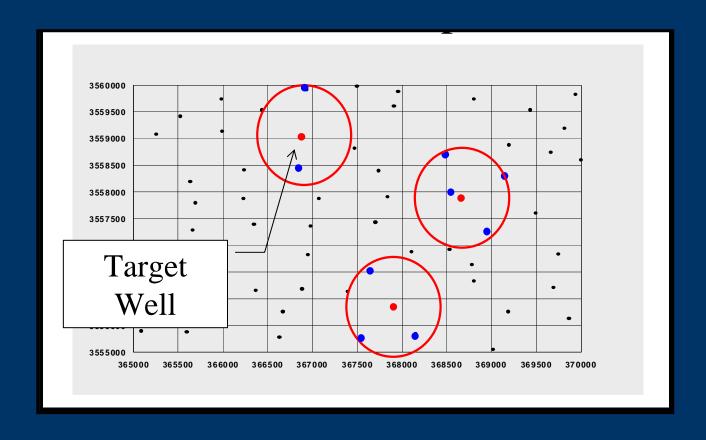


### Fundamentals of SWARM (Stripper Well Remediation Methodology)

- Calculates appropriate production indicators
  - Representative of a target well's production history over a chosen interval
    - (e.g. 4-Year Cum, 5-Year Cum, 7- Year Cum etc.)
    - Normalized rate = average monthly rate for the last year of the desired production period
- Compares an individual target well's production profile to its offsets
- Streamlines identification process



### A Target Well and Its Offsets Make up a Domain





#### **SWARM**

#### (Stripper Well Remediation Methodology)

- The Software compares the cumulative production of a target well over a user-specified time span, with all offsets within a fixed distance
- Depletion is taken into account by considering the date of first production (DOFP) versus a desired production-indicator (PI)
  - Lower Pl's over time
- Streamlines identification process



#### **SWARM**

#### (Stripper Well Remediation Methodology)

- If the PI of a Target well is lower than a given percentage (e.g 50%, 70% etc.) it is flagged for additional review
- The entire list of wells is processed and all Target wells that meet the desired criteria are identified
- This is an efficient and rapid method of identifying potential remediation candidates



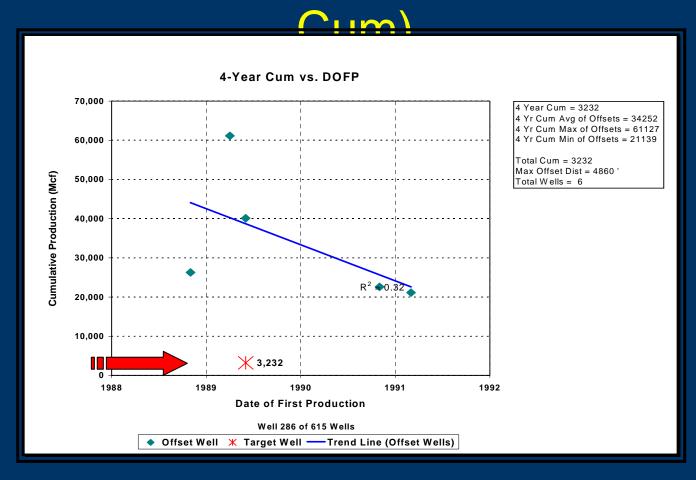
#### **SWARM**

#### (Stripper Well Remediation Methodology)

 After the first pass is completed, a review of each candidates completion data, geologic information, production history, and operating environment should be conducted



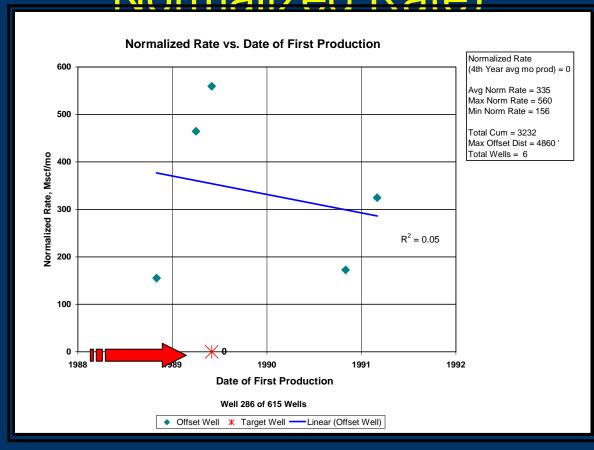
## Performing Significantly Worse Than Its Offsets (Based Upon 4-year





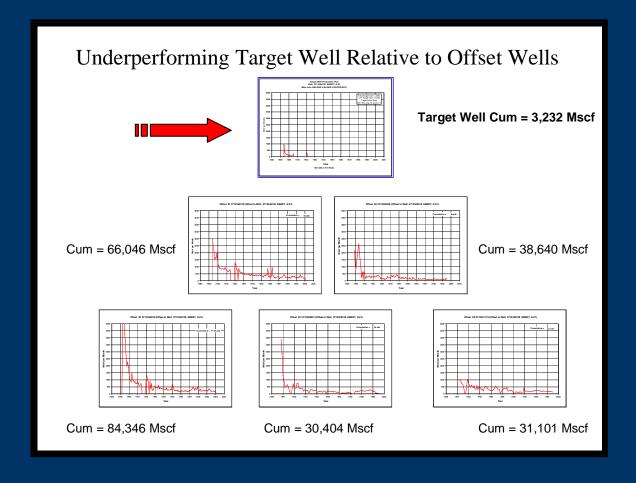
#### Example of a Target Well Performing Significantly Worse Than Its Offsets (Based Upon







#### Underperforming Target Well Relative to Offsets





#### Additional Objectives of This Project

- Evaluate workover/recompletion potential of the Whirlpool/Medina Formation in western Pennsylvania
- Objective included quantifying the number of remediation candidates and their geographic location
- Great Lakes Energy Company (Great Lakes), and Belden & Blake provided information for more than 700 wells

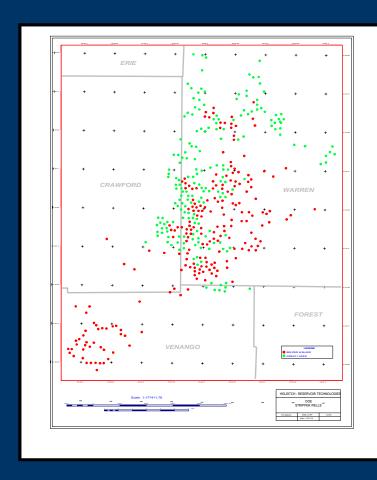


#### Location Map of Study Area





#### **Location Map Showing Wells**



### Location Map of Study Area Wells

Crawford, Venango and Warren Counties, Pennsylvania

~700 wells

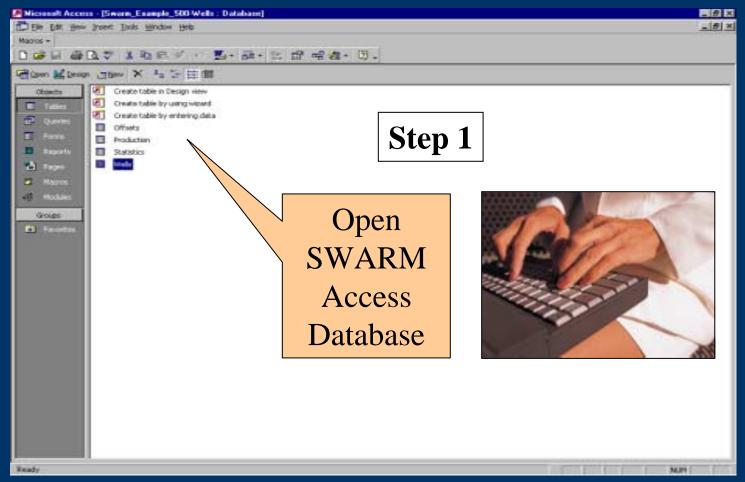


#### **SWARM Software**



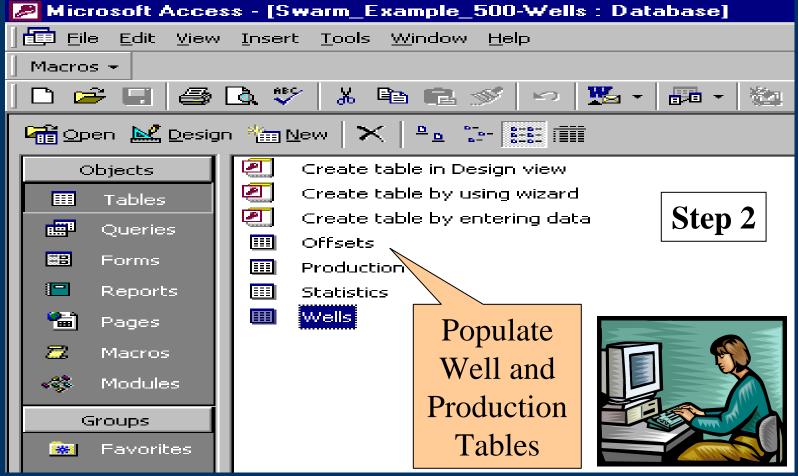


### Example Screen Shots of SWARM Microsoft<sup>TM</sup> Access Database



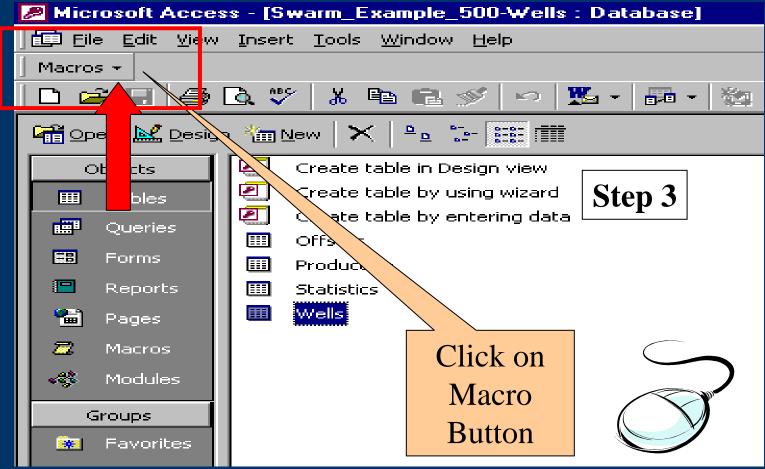


### Screen Shot of SWARM Access Database (Step 2)



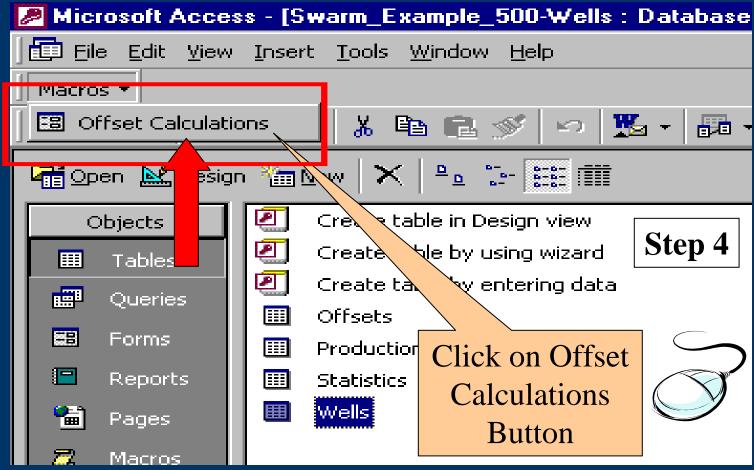


### Screen Shot of SWARM Access Database (Step 3)



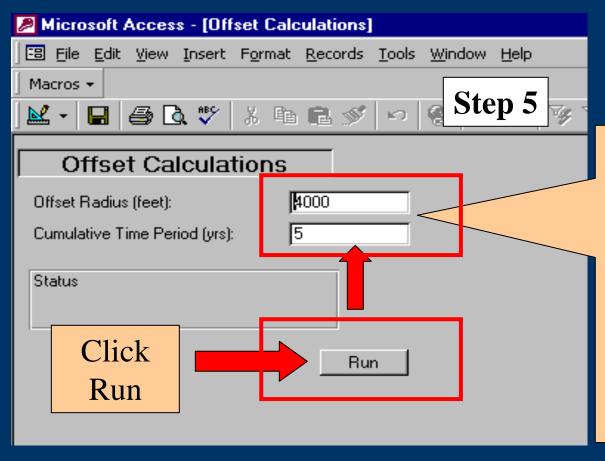


### Screen Shot of SWARM Access Database (Step 4)





### Screen Shot of SWARM Access Database (Step 5)



Enter Maximum
Radius Desired For
Target Well to
Offset Analysis and
Input Cumulative
Time Period for
Production
Indicator

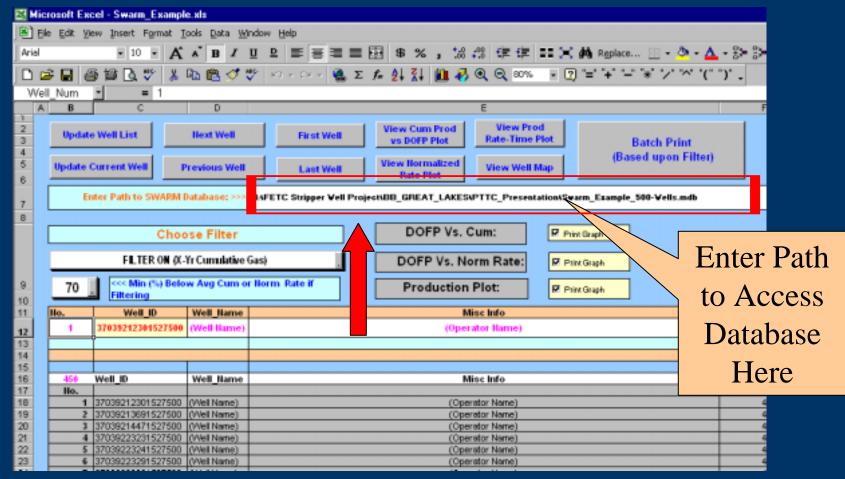


### Access File Ready for Excel Processing

- Our Access file is now ready for processing by a SWARM Microsoft Excel<sup>TM</sup> spreadsheet.
- Note <u>imaginary</u> well names and locations.

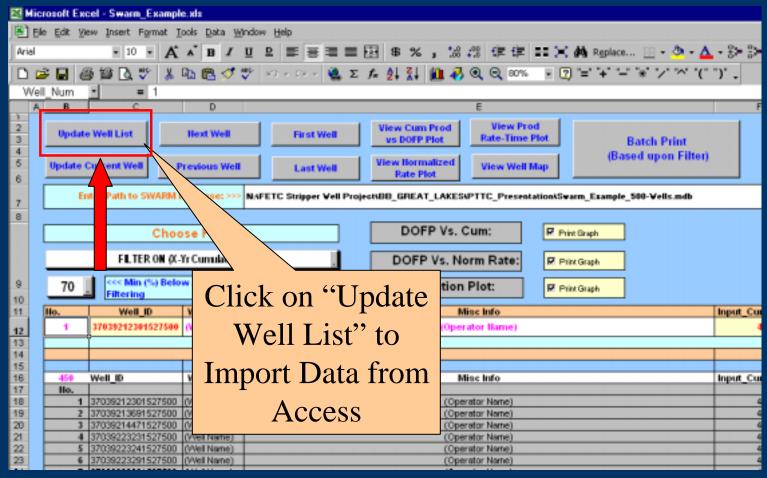


### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 1)



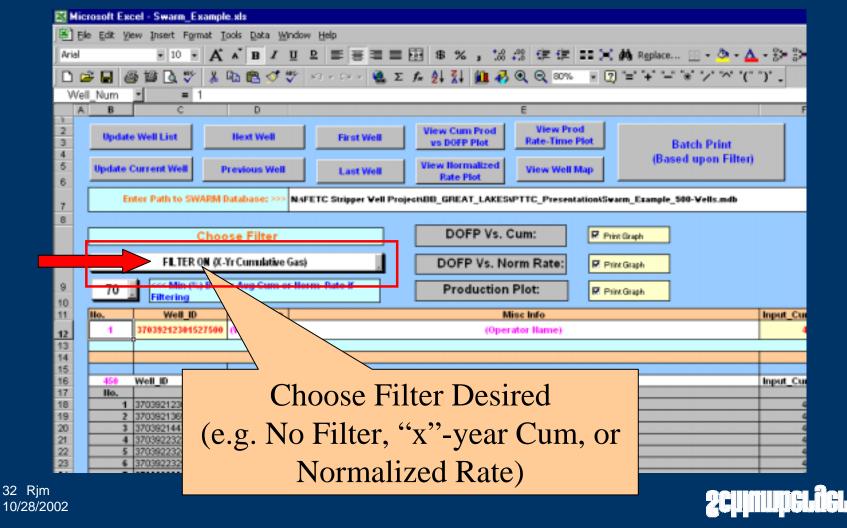


### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 2)

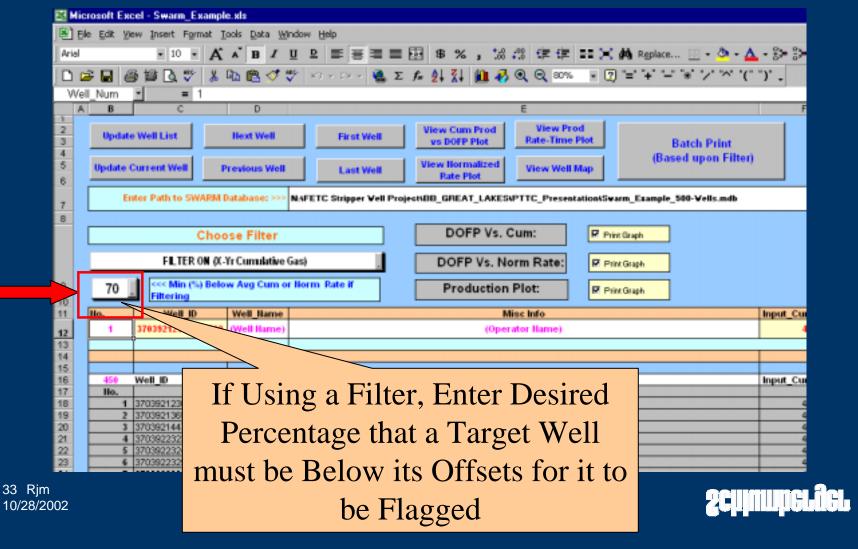




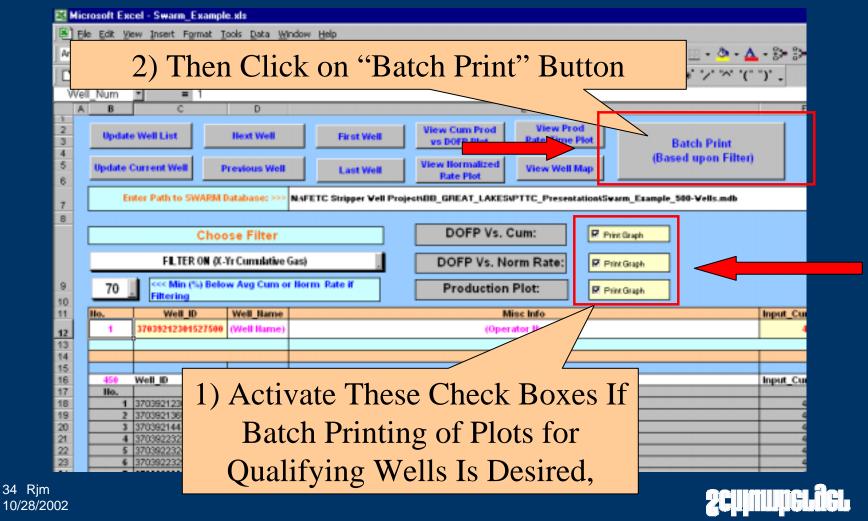
### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 3)



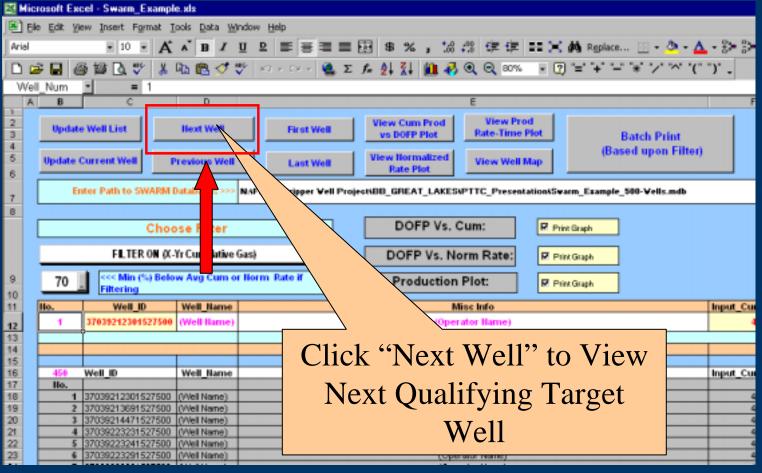
### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 4)



### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 5)



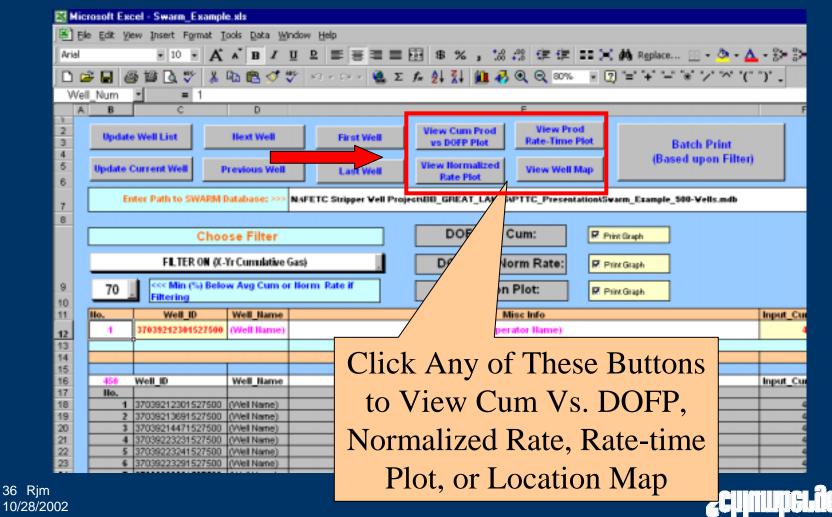
### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 6)



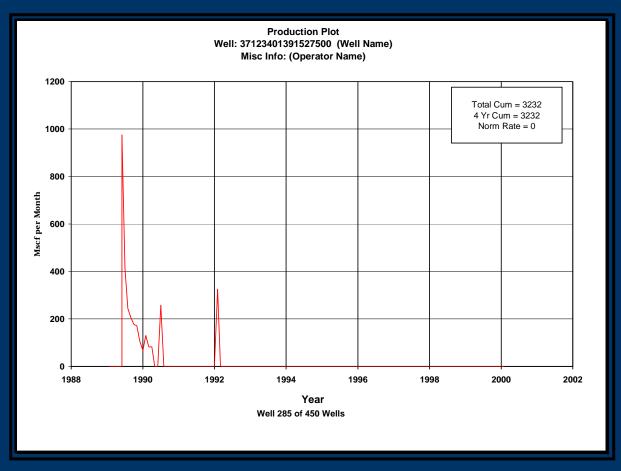




### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Step 7)

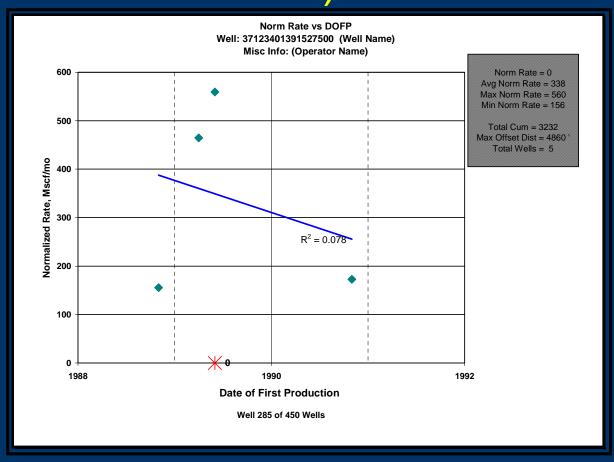


### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Rate-Time Plot)



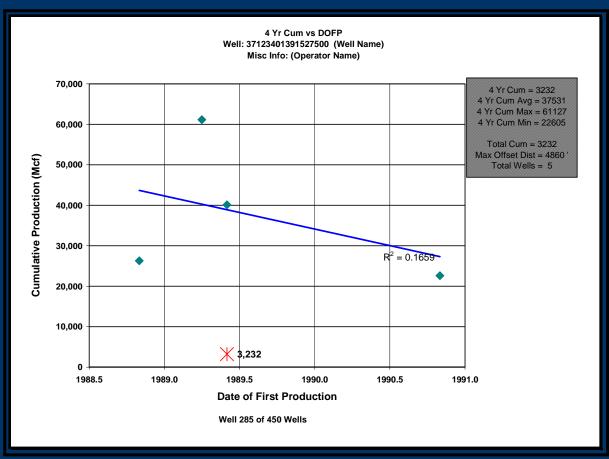


#### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Normalized Rate Plot)

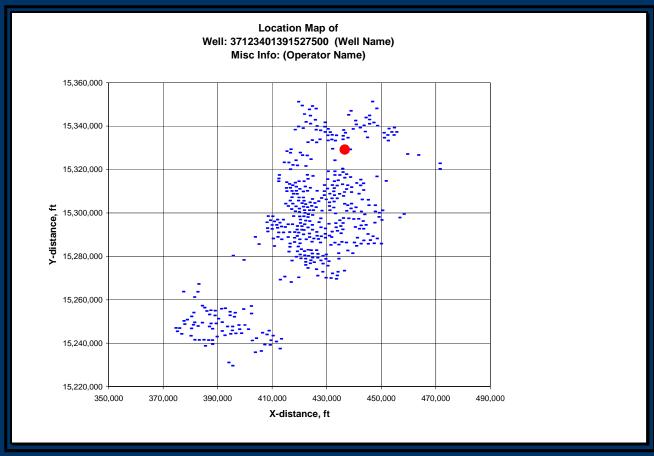




## Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet ("x"-Year Cum vs. DOFP Plot)



### Screen Shot of SWARM Excel Spreadsheet (Location Map)



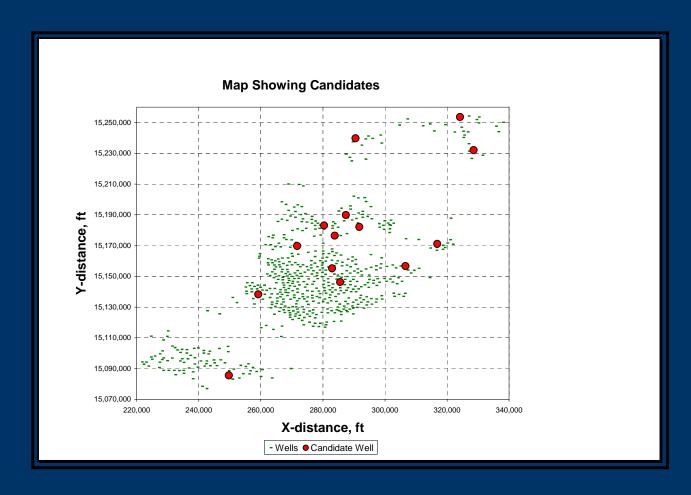


### Recommendations (Continued)

 List of candidates should be high-graded for economic viability based upon recompletion and workover potential



#### Map of Remediation Candidates





#### Conclusions

- A PC-based, Stripper Well Remediation Methodology (SWARM) software package capable of quickly and easily identifying underperforming gas stripper-wells has been designed, built, and tested.
- We identified candidates to be reviewed for possible inadequate completions, operational constraints, and/or mechanical problems.



#### Recommendations

- Rework candidates should be evaluated for geologic, completion, and operational factors that may have led to underperformance.
- Contributing factors should be corrected if possible (e.g. Line pressure, well tending, pipeline constraints etc.).



### Recommendations (Continued)

 List of candidates should be high-graded for economic viability based upon recompletion and workover potential



#### **SWARM Program Review**

- Easier process for operators to examine their wells
  - Life is much simpler now



